The Gold Book:

Ceremonies of the Psi Upsilon Fraternity

Augmented for the Gamma Tau Chapter

Table of Contents

Chapter Meeting Ceremony **3**

Founders' Pledge Ceremony **5**

Equipment/Supplies/Attendants 5

Setting 5

The Procedure 5

The Ceremony 6

Big Brother Ceremony **11**

Equipment/Supplies/Attendants 11

Setting 11

The Ceremony 12

Formal Initiation Ceremony **15**

Setting 15

The Procedure 15

The Ceremony – Part 1 15

The Ceremony – Part 2 18

The Covenant **28**

Equipment/Supplies/Attendants 28

The Ceremony 28

Adamantine Chain Ceremony and Senior Charge **30**

Installation of Officers **33**

Memorial Service **38**

Supplies/Attendants 38

The Ceremony 38

Chapter Meeting Ceremony

Archon: *(raps gavel)* Let the secrecy of the lodge room be insured.

First Angelos: The lodge room is secure, Brother Archon.

Archon: Are all the brothers in their places?

Grammateus: *(Calls the roll and reports)*

Brother(s) ____ are excused. Brother(s) ____ are unaccounted for.

Archon: All rise. *(Archon then reads opening speech)*

Opening Speech:

Archon: The hour of our meeting has again arrived. The officers are in their places and a quorum of members is again present. I therefore declare that the Gamma Tau Chapter of the Psi Upsilon Fraternity is now in session. Let each member fitly perform all duties incumbent upon them. Let fidelity, that high and noble purpose for the attainment of which we are all joined in these fraternal bonds, inspire all that is said and done among us today.

The Standard Order of Proceeding:

a. **The Song** *(usually the "Doxology")*
b. **Reading and approval of the minutes** of the last meeting *(Grammateus)*
c. **Discussion of candidates for membership** *(Membership Recruitment Chairman)*
d. **Elections or installations** when appropriate
e. **Reports of the officers and committees** *(Read from the podium; the Archon chooses the order, which does not have to be the same each meeting)*
f. **Reading of correspondence** *(From alumni, other chapters, the International Office, etc.)*

g. **Literary Exercise** *(Psi Upsilon started as a literary society, and this has always been a part of our meeting. Sometimes it is a reading, sometimes it is a debate. It can be interesting, serious, or humorous.)*

h. **Unfinished business**

i. **New business**

j. **Lodge Critic's report** *(Report on the chapter since the last meeting. It should bring problems to light that appear to be affecting the chapter. In some chapters, it is always serious. In other chapters, it is sometimes humorous; many use a combination of the two. Some chapters have a permanent Lodge Critic, while others let everyone take turns.)*

k. ***Accolades****

l. **Cabirean Rights** *(This is the time when everyone is asked to speak. Everyone should have the opportunity to say what they think, the only rule being that one cannot attack another brother or bring up an issue that has already been voted on. There can be no rebuttal or interruption, and once you have spoken, you may not speak again. Chapters vary as to the order in which one speaks. What is said may be very funny or serious, but it is almost always personal. People will often express their true feelings and concerns about the chapter. It is a good way to build a closer brotherhood.)*

Adjournment:

Archon: If there are no further remarks, a motion to adjourn is in order. *(motion is moved and carried)*

Archon: Brothers, the time for closing has now arrived. Let friendship and brotherly love be the hallowed ties that bind us together. In our fellowship, let us keep the vows we have freely made and preserve unbroken all ties of brotherhood. Let no contention arise in our midst and let us ponder well our words and actions. (All rise, All brothers read next part together.) Our outward union we now dissolve, but let us cling to that inner and truer union. In going forth from this hall let us remember our vows once taken at the Psi Upsilon altar, and let our motto ever be _____.

(Archon states the motto in Greek, then brothers repeat the motto in English. The Brothers form a circle, link fingers, and sing the "Shrine Song")

Founders' Pledge Ceremony

Equipment/Supplies/Attendants

- Altar
- Candlles
- Archon
- 1st Angelos
- 2nd Angelos
- Seven Robed Brothers with Badges over their heart (optional)
- Song Leader
- Fraternity Icons: Skull, Chain, Sword, Book (bound Constitution)
- Pledge Book
- Pledge Pins

Setting

It is suggested that this ceremony take place in one of the social rooms of the chapter house-- not the Lodge Room. The room should be dimly lighted, either by the flickering glow of an open fire or by suitably placed candles. The room is prepared so that there is a low black altar upon which the letters Psi and Upsilon are displayed. (The Psi Upsilon Flag may be used.) A dimly lit candle should be situated upon the altar, along with the icons, Pledge Book, and Pledge pins.

The Procedure

The ceremony starts with the active members forming an incomplete circle, with the Archon standing alone in the "gap" behind the dimly lit altar. Seven robed brothers (symbolic of seven founders) should form a semicircle behind the Archon. The seven robed members should not be officers as the group of Founders should not be disturbed during the ceremony. The candidates should be assembled in another part of the house. After all

preparations have been completed and the ceremony officially opened by the Archon, the candidates should be led by the Angelos and stand on the floor directly in front of brothers. Candidates should be received alphabetically by class year, beginning with the most senior class represented. They will remain standing until each is called upon to give his oath.

Members and candidates should wear coat and tie for this solemn occasion.

The Ceremony

Archon: Brothers, we are gathered here today to receive the pledges of the newest candidates for membership into our noble order. Let us receive the candidates.

(Angelos exits. They return escorting the candidates alphabetically by class year, beginning with the most senior class, and directs them to stand in front of the brothers, forming a semi-circle facing the altar.)

Archon: You are standing at the threshold of a great and mystic Brotherhood, whose principles and secrets, based on morality and the best feelings of the heart, are known only within the sphere of its initiated members. Before we proceed further, we wish to acquaint you with the story of our founding.

1st Angelos: Dr. Eliphalet Nott was President of Union College in 1833. He was at first doubtful as to the usefulness of fraternities but he wrote that since "It is impossible longer to restrain them…I have decided to lead them and train them to useful ends." His grandson, Clarkson Nott Potter, Theta 1842, has spoken of one of the several meetings held early in the autumn of 1833.

2nd Angelos: "Toward the close of a summer day, a young man was looking out of an upper window…just then another student entered and the two friends fell to talking of the beauty of the scenery and the college and college affairs. Presently, two others joined them and their conversation turned upon the need there was for a new society. At last, it grew dark and the visitors arose to leave. It had been fully decided that these young men would endeavor to establish a new fraternity. 'Good night, thine cordially,' said the visitors as they

departed. 'Good night, thine always,' to each the one who remained responded. It was thus, as I have heard, that our fraternity was first suggested. It was to this casual parting that we owe our four-sided rhomboidal badge with its emblem of clasped hands. By these four men and their three associates the society was established."

1st Angelos: The four students referred to were Sterling Goodale Hadley, Edward Martindale, Charles Washington Harvey, and Merwin Henry Stewart. Their associates were Samuel Goodale, George Washington Tuttle, and Robert Barnard.

2nd Angelos: Brother William Taylor, Theta 1838, the first freshman to enter the portals of Psi Upsilon, believed that the intensely bitter college politics of the day was the direct reason for the action of our Founders. In the History of the Psi Upsilon Fraternity, he wrote;

"Several of the students of Union College, members of the sophomore class of 1833 and belonging to the Delphian Institute… being desirous of a more close and friendly intercourse than afforded by that association, determined to unite themselves into a club or secret society. The first record of their meeting is the following words:

'We, the undersigned, having a determination to form a secret society, and having some conversation on the subject, do now and hereby pledge our sacred honors that we will keep all that has been said and done a most profound secret and that at or before the beginning of the next term, we will meet and form a society.'"

With the signing of this pledge, Psi Upsilon was born.

1st Angelos: The chapters of Psi Upsilon have long recognized the vital need of preparing new members for initiation by systematic instruction in the fraternity's songs, history, organization, traditions, and ideals. This is done through word and example, to impress upon the initiates the great significance and lifelong duration of the fraternal bonds they seek to assume. The basic purpose of these preparations is to open the eyes of those pledged to our fraternity's honored past, to start them in the right way toward an

understanding of its time-tested ideals and to lead them into such an attitude of mind and spirit that they will appreciate fully our beautiful initiation ritual and all that it implies.

2nd Angelos: We feel deeply that all preliminary treatment of initiates should be in strict keeping with the spirit of friendship which is our fraternity's foundation and with the expression of that spirit which comes so vividly before our initiates as the climax of their induction into Psi Upsilon.

Archon: Gentlemen: We meet today to renew this pledge made _____ years ago by seven young students at Union College. In the breasts of these young men was the yearning of youth to share the innermost feelings of the heart with kindred souls. To this end they made a pledge to form a more perfect union- a union symbolized by the clasp of the hand and the beat of the heart. Thus, with the making of such a pledge to each other, was born our fraternity- Psi Upsilon.

1st Angelos: Before you bind yourself to Psi Upsilon- a bond which continues to the last faint faltering breath of life- you should know the purpose of our society. That purpose is "the union of all its members in friendship for the promotion of the highest moral, intellectual, and social excellence." You have been selected as candidates for membership because we feel you are capable of attaining these high standards we hold ever before us as our goal, and because we feel you will bring to our common altar the same warm feeling of brotherhood we extend to you.

2nd Angelos: Man is a social being and friendship is a necessity. Psi Upsilon is an answer to that need. Its success has become a romance, its ideals a tradition. It interprets the life of its members through priceless companionship. In its ideals and precedents there are active and necessary forces of discipline which act and react upon the individual as well as the group. Within its circles are endless opportunities for development of the ease and poise of social experience and responsibility. Psi Upsilon helps us to live together in good fellowship, to open our hearts, to understand life, and to share its joys and disappointments. It teaches

us to cooperate, to meet opposition, and to speak for ourselves. It develops our instinct for friendship. It stimulates our loyalty to college and country.

Psi Upsilon does not exist for itself, it exists for us. It has no being of its own; it is part of our being. When we are strong it triumphs. When we are weak it is defeated. It is much or it is little. It is whatever we make of it. The endurance of Psi Upsilon is a tribute to those who have gone before us. It is our duty and privilege to continue the traditions of Psi Upsilon.

Archon: Such is the brotherhood you now seek to join. You, like every brother in Psi Upsilon, will be given duties to perform. Do them faithfully. You will have lessons to learn. Learn them well. You will have responsibilities to assume. Assume them cheerfully. Upon the altar burns a candle, a token of the spark of divine fire which we discern in you. Beside it rest the symbols of the secrets of Psi Upsilon which you will learn upon initiation into our brotherhood. Around the altar stand seven brothers, upon the heart of each glitters the golden token of Psi Upsilon, twined hands that never part. To you they represent the seven founders of Psi Upsilon.

We now ask that you subscribe to that ancient pledge with which our fraternity was founded.

"Being desirous of a more close and friendly intercourse than afforded by other associations, we are determined to unite ourselves with Psi Upsilon. We do now and hereby pledge our sacred honors that we will keep all that has been said and done a most profound secret.

(At this point, the candidates should approach the Altar in alphabetical order by class year, beginning with the most senior class. On the altar there is a dimly burning lamp. The altar is flanked by seven robed brothers, each with a badge over their heart. There should be a list of all those to be pledged. The Archon should receive each candidate individually. Candidate's hand should be placed upon skull while subscribing to the pledge and signing the Pledge Book.)

Do you, (name of candidate), so pledge?

(After each subscribes to the pledge, the candidate should be fitted with a pledge pin and given a handshake by the Archon [NOT THE PSI UPSILON GRIP]. Each should return to their former position.)

Archon: Brothers, you have heard and bear witness. Each of you, having taken this solemn pledge and with the unanimous approval of the Gamma Tau Chapter of the Psi Upsilon Fraternity, I congratulate and welcome you.

(At this point, the song leader should prompt brothers to sing "The Shrine Song".)

Big Brother Ceremony

Equipment/Supplies/Attendants

- Altar
- Archon
- Pledge Educator
- One Large Candle
- One small candle for each Big Brother and pledge

It is a custom of this fraternity that several members are chosen to serve as Big Brothers, mentors for the pledges during their orientation period and beyond. The selection procedure and full responsibilities of the big brother are outlined in the Psi Upsilon Membership Program. The primary purpose of a Big Brother program is to help pledges feel welcome and acclimate them to the chapter. The big brother is also responsible for teaching the little brother the operations, customs, and standards of the chapter. This ceremony reinforces and develops the bond between the pledge and the brother.

Setting

The Big Brother Ceremony should be held at the chapter facility, if possible. The room should be illuminated by a single, large candle. The chapter advisor and all members of the undergraduate chapter should be present. Brothers selected to be big brothers will each have an unlit candle.

The pledges are all conducted into the room by the Pledge Educator with each pledge carrying an unlit candle. They are arranged in a semicircle facing the Archon who is standing behind the altar with the large candle. One all are properly positioned, the ceremony begins.

The Ceremony

Brothers sing in unison: *(from "Welcome Brothers")*

In our various paths of life,

Cares and sorrows may be rife,

And the night be dark and faithful friends be few.

When the storm is raging high

And deep darkness rules the sky,

Then the beacon light shall burst from old Psi U.

Archon (to the pledges): Your association with the Psi Upsilon Fraternity, which has just begun, will be a relationship which will last a lifetime. The orientation period is the time for you to ask questions, to learn about the traditions and purposes of Psi Upsilon, and to confirm within yourself and to the chapter your commitment to the Fraternity. As a candidate for membership, you will be aided in your quest to find the true meaning of Psi Upsilon by a Big Brother.

Through their experiences in the fraternity, the members chosen to serve as Big Brothers have attained knowledge of its traditions and practices and have demonstrated their commitment to the pursuit of its ideals. They are leaders and role models, chosen for their exemplary contributions to the Chapter, the college, and the community. They will serve as your teachers, mentors, counselors, and friends as you prepare for initiation. The light of Psi Upsilon has been the guiding force in their journey of brotherhood, as it shall be in yours.

(At this time, the big brothers should step forward in random order and light their candles from the large candle on the table. Holding their lighted candles, they should then move and

form a semi-circle in front of the altar, facing their respective little brothers and thereby completing the circle.)

Archon (to Big Brothers): Brothers, you are charged with the responsibility of guiding these candidates as they grow to become brothers. You are charged with the responsibility of providing a safe and caring environment that is free from dangers of physical and mental harm either by you or any other member of this Fraternity. To you is entrusted the future of Psi Upsilon. Give the benefit of your guidance in academics, in leadership, in activity on campus and elsewhere. Expect in return their cooperation, dedication, and commitment..

At all times, strive to foster the formation of this pledge's relationships with all chapter members, for therein will lie the strength of our brotherhood. You must be diligent in performing this vital task, for indeed you are your brother's keeper.

Archon (to pledges): It is your obligation to improve upon the example that is set by your Big Brother. Whenever possible, seek new solutions and higher levels of achievement in scholarship, leadership, and citizenship. Question and challenge your guide while challenging yourself to attain new and loftier goals. Challenge those around you to build a stronger brotherhood. In these endeavors you will receive guidance, support, and understanding from your Big Brother and your chapter.

We are heirs to a rich heritage, the legacy of our founders. Their actions over ( ) years ago have led to your presence here. As the founders of Psi Upsilon sought friendships and passed what they found through countless generations to you, so too should you seek to perpetuate the friendship and brotherhood that is the foundation upon which Psi Upsilon is based. Learn these lessons well, for you will be expected to teach them to those that follow. This will be your legacy to the future.

Archon (to Big Brothers): By now lighting your little brother's candle from your candle, we pass the beacon light of Psi Upsilon to the next generation.

(Each big brother should step forward to light the candle of their assigned little brother with their candle.)

In this way, as we each prepare to pass from these halls, and as the big brothers extinguish their lights…

(Big brothers should all blow out their candles at this time.)

…the beacon light of Psi Upsilon continues to shine in your hands.

(Brothers link fingers in a circle around the pledges and sing the "Shrine Song". Following this, the pledges may extinguish their candles. They should then be led out of the room by their big brother and conducted to the site of the reception/dinner. Brothers should hum the "Shrine Song" until all pledges have left the room.)

Formal Initiation Ceremony

Driver (to candidate): (full name), you are about to embark upon a journey, which will last a lifetime. Once you have started on this journey, there can be no return. Do you wish to continue?

Setting

The room is prepared with a low black altar (shrine) upon which the letters Psi and Upsilon are displayed. (The Psi Upsilon flag may be substituted) Four unlit candles are on the altar – one for each of the four virtues; Secrecy, Fidelity, Wisdom, and Brotherly Love.

The Procedure

Members and Candidates should wear a coat and tie for this solemn occasion.

When candidates arrive, the room containing the altar should be prepared. The Archon will properly open the "meeting", and Big Brothers will prepare to retrieve the candidates. They should be received and initiated alphabetically. The Procedure will be outlined in the initiation ritual.

The Ceremony – Part 1

Archon strikes gavel to gain attention and signify that ceremony will begin.

Archon: Let the secrecy of the lodge room be insured.

Oikonomos: The lodge room is secure, Brother Archon.

Archon: Are all the brothers in their places?

Grammateus/Epistolographos: A quorum of members is present, Brother Archon.

Archon: The hour of our meeting has again arrived. The officers are in their places and a quorum of members is again present. I therefore declare that the Gamma Tau Chapter of

Psi Upsilon is now in session. Let every member fitly perform all duties incumbent upon them. Let fidelity, that high and noble purpose for the attainment of which we are all joined in these fraternal bonds, inspire all that is said and done among us today.

Brothers, we are gathered here on this solemn, yet joyous occasion for the purpose of accepting new members into our sacred bonds. There being no other business, we will proceed directly to the initiation. Big Brothers, please gather the candidates.

Oikonomos (and helpers) exit to retrieve candidates. Candidates are received alphabetically. The drivers conduct the candidate to the door of the initiation chamber and speaks to him. In the case of the Gamma Tau Chapter, this portion may be done by the brothers who accompany the candidates to the midway point, during which time the candidates will be blindfolded so as not to see the location of the final ceremony.

The Driver leads the group to the door of the initiation room, where he gives the "familiar knock", loud, then soft, repeated, reminiscent of a heartbeat. He is answered by the Oikonomos stationed within.

Oikonomos: Who demands entrance to this chamber?

Driver: Several who wish to enter the portals of Psi Upsilon; friends, clouded in darkness, who desire admission to our secret circle.

Oikonomos: *(opens the door and allows entrance to blindfolded candidates)*

Candidates are led to the center of the room, paddles removed from the candidates and placed in front of the alter.

Oikonomos (to Archon, loud enough to be heard by candidates): Brother Archon, there approach several friends who have proved their trustworthiness. They are clouded in darkness and are now in search of the light.

Archon: Are they qualified to become members of our secret circle?

All (Shout): NO!

Oikonomos: They have learned much of our sacred order. But their education is incomplete. We beg enlightenment so that these candidates may become worthy of full admission into the sacred realm of Psi Upsilon.

Archon: What is the Brethren's will as to the disposition of these candidates?

First Brother (Secrecy): The seeker of wisdom must not be turned away.

Second Brother (Fidelity): Who comes in friendship must be received in friendship.

Third Brother (Wisdom): They who journey far must receive the kindness of our hearts.

Fourth Brother (Brotherly Love): Brother Archon, we are of one mind. Let the candidates proceed.

Archon: Lead them to the altar.

The candidates are lead to the altar.

We receive you at our altar clouded in darkness. To see the true meaning of Psi Upsilon, you must dispel selfishness from your heart from this day forth. Do you promise to do so?

Candidates reply. The candle to the Archon's far left is lighted by the Grammateus/ Epistolographos.

Archon: To see the true meaning of Psi Upsilon, you must dispel indolence from your heart from this day forth. Do you promise to do so?

Candidates reply. The candle to the Archon's immediate left is lighted by the Thesauristes.

Archon: To see the true meaning of Psi Upsilon, you must strive to dispel intolerance, the enemy of kindliness and friendship from your heart from this day forth. Do you promise to do so?

Candidates reply. The candle to the Archon's immediate right is lighted by the Second Angelos.

Archon: To see the true meaning of Psi Upsilon, you must strive to dispel ignorance from your heart from this day forth. Do you promise to do so?

Candidates reply. The candle to the Archon's far right is lighted by the First Angelos. The letters Psi Upsilon should now be fully visible upon the altar cloth.

First Brother (Secrecy): Brother Archon, the darkness has been lifted.

Blindfolds are removed.

Archon: It now becomes your privilege to dedicate yourself, your life, and the devotion of your heart to the service of this noble order of which the Psi and the Upsilon are symbols. Bow your head and speak softly these words – "_____#____."

Candidates softly repeat "_____." Song leader leads brothers in soft rendition of chorus of "Dear Old Shrine."

First Angelos: Return now to the shadows from whence you came, there to await our further summons.

*Pledges are again blindfolded. Pledges will then be led by Oikonomos around in circles until the four points are ready. In the meantime, the final vote will be held by the brotherhood. Brothers whisper quietly as pledges are led around. Upon the singing of "Welcome Brothers" **{First Verse and Chorus}**, the pledges may enter the altar room, still blindfolded. When pledges return, no candles are lit.*

The Ceremony – Part 2

First Angelos: I present to you several candidates chosen by the brotherhood to join our noble order.

Archon: Under what summons do they come?

First Angelos: The summons of their hearts.

Blindfolds are removed. The First Angelos lights an altar candle and indicates that big Brothers and candidates should take one step towards the altar.

Archon: Those who would become one of us are required to go upon a long and arduous journey. The way is narrow and the ascent is steep, for it is in fact the difficult journey of life. On the journey of life, members of our order are expected to make a significant contribution to the colleges and universities with which they are associated, to the communities in which they reside, and to the great countries of the United States of America and Canada; promote the adoption and fulfillment of significant life goals; promote the highest moral, intellectual, and social excellence and educational standards; engage in a firm and enduring friendship and true brotherhood for life.

To achieve these goals, you must incorporate the four Virtues of the Diamond in your daily life, for only in that manner will you find that for which you seek. Advance with courage, for you will have guidance, and at each point of the road you will be instructed in the Virtues of the Diamond.

Pledges are blindfolded

(To Big Brother) Let the first candidate begin his journey.

Oikonomos: To aid you in your quest, take this flaming torch as a token of the spark of divine fire, which we see in you. (*Place torch in candidate's hand*.) Carry it through the darkness and it will not fail to lead you to the shrine, which you seek.

By observing the progress of each candidate along the journey, Oikonomos will be able to signal each successive candidate by handing him a lighted torch at the appropriate time – i.e. When the first candidate reaches the second Virtue, the second candidate should begin his journey, etc.

Oikonomos (to each successive candidate as he provides a torch): And now you begin

your quest.

The Big Brother conducts the candidate to the first point (Virtue). The Brothers at each of the stations should speak just loudly enough for the candidate to hear his message.

First Brother (Secrecy): Who is this stranger, clouded in darkness, and carrying a wavering torch?

Big Brother: A friend, who would become a brother.

Secrecy: The first virtue of a brother is secrecy, whose emblem is the skull. O thou who serves as eyes and ears for these supplicant souls, doth thy charges know the meaning of that word and the deep importance which that word beareth?

Big Brother: Its deep importance explain, O guardian of the silent domain, and they shall answer for themselves.

Secrecy: Here reign stranger spirits for from the babbling world, the silence of the lately quitted tomb; from which neither love nor hate can wring forbidden words. The dead speak not, and the living may learn much from those who have gone before.

For each pledge, Big Brother places pledges right hand on the skull

Secrecy: Do you, (pledges full name), swear to be forever silent as the death's head beneath thy hands concerning whatever thou shalt hear or see within the halls of our order?

Pledge: I do.

Secrecy: It is well. You may proceed.

Big Brother takes pledges hand from skull, then proceeds to the Sword section.

Second Brother (Fidelity): Who is this stranger, clouded in darkness, and carrying a wavering torch?

Big Brother: A friend, who would become a brother.

Fidelity: The second virtue of a brother is fidelity, whose symbol is the sword. O thou, who has been elected guide to these wandering souls on their journey, do your charges know the meaning of that word within this portal?

Big Brother: Speak, faithful keeper of this eternal barrier that they may surely know.

Fidelity: It has such meaning, stranger souls, as the false world whence you come knows not of; such that your brains would shrivel within their walls, your tongues between your teeth, your hands consumed by fire, sooner than your brains, tongues or hands would fail to strive within their utmost grief for the good and glory of this noble order.

For each pledge, Big Brother comes forward and places pledges hand on the sword.

Fidelity covers with his right.

Fidelity: Do you, (pledges full name), swear to be forever faithful and true to every lawful obligation and worthy purpose of this noble order?

Pledge: I do.

Fidelity: It is well. You may proceed.

Big Brother takes pledges hand from sword, then proceeds to the Book section.

Third Brother (Wisdom): Who is this stranger, clouded in darkness, and carrying a wavering torch?

Big Brother: A friend, who would become a brother.

Wisdom: You have chosen well. Listen carefully; the third Virtue of the Diamond is wisdom – the wisdom to know right from wrong and the wisdom to know yourself. Through your wisdom the chapter will grow and prosper. But remember also, there is wisdom to be found in those who have gone before you. Learn from them so that you may achieve true

brotherhood.

Wisdom places pledges hand in book of candidate.

Wisdom: On this symbol of truth and knowledge, do you, (pledges full name), promise to forever pursue a life of virtue and to act in accordance with the principles of justice and democracy upon which this society and this Fraternity are based?

Pledge: I do.

Wisdom: It is well. You may proceed.

Big Brother takes pledges hand from book, then proceeds to the Chain section.

Fourth Brother (Brotherly Love): Who is this stranger, clouded in darkness, and carrying a wavering torch?

Big Brother: A friend, who would become a brother.

Brotherly Love: The fourth Virtue of a brother is Brotherly Love, whose symbol is the chain. O you, who have guided this stranger on their journey, do you bring here one worthy to pass this portal, kept with such zealous care?

Big Brother: I do, but let them master the chain and what each link therein represents.

Brotherly Love: On this chain exists the love that each brother of our order has for one another, each link representing one neophyte that has passed this vestibule. If you would be on of these, then let yourself be prepared to take the final oath which shall eternally bind you in a boon of love and affection which shall be cherished no less than life itself.

Brotherly Love places pledges hand on chain.

Brotherly Love: Do you, (pledges full name), swear by the hope of friendship on earth and above never to cease striving to become a perfect link in the chain of brothers?

Pledge: I do.

Brotherly Love: Go now. Wait in total silence until you are summoned.

Big Brother removes chain from pledges hands and returns it to the cloth. The Big Brother and pledge now return to the altar. The pledges shall wait until they have all returned.

Oikonomos: O Neophytes, your journeys are not yet completed. You are not to speak to anyone, whether he be a brother or a member of your Delegation, until the time comes when you are to take the sacred oath of our order and shall stand among your Brothers of Psi Upsilon.

Take them away!

Pledges are led around in circles until the icons are delivered to the altar and placed according to the diagram, from left facing candidates: skull, sword, book, and chain.

Pledges return to shrine once the altar is ready.

Archon: You have all journeyed the path of the diamond. Remember the meaning of the four Virtues of the diamond. They represent all that is Psi Upsilon. Only if they are truly learned and lived will you be worthy to wear the diamond badge above your heart. Approach the shrine.

(Blindfolds are removed, and Pledges are led to altar by Big Brothers. Archon lights candles and resumes his speech.)

Archon: Before this shrine your solemn vows have set aflame four lights, symbolic of all that is Psi Upsilon. Brother Grammateus/Epistolographos, please state the first Virtue of our order.

Grammateus/Epistolographos *(Standing behind and describing candle to the Archon's far left)***:** The first Virtue is SECRECY, which is represented by the skull. Let your actions be such as to never betray the sacred trusts and confidences placed in you.

Archon: Brother Thesaurites, please state the second Virtue of our order:

Thesaurites *(Standing behind and describing candle to Archon's immediate left):* The second Virtue is FIDELITY, which is represented by the sword. To yourself be true, and it must follow as the night the day thou cannot then be false to any man.

Archon: Brother Second Angelos, please state the third Virtue of our order.

Second Angelos *(Standing behind and describing candle to Archon's immediate right):* The third Virtue is WISDOM, which is represented by the open book. Strive to hold in your heart a reverence for learning and truth. If you can do this, you will surely grow to achieve the realization of the ancient dictum found on an Athenian temple – to "Know thyself".

Archon: Brother First Angelos, please state the fourth Virtue of our order.

First Angelos *(Standing behind and describing the candle to Archon's far right):* The fourth Virtue of a Brother is BROTHERLY LOVE, represented by the chain. It is a symbol of brotherly love, that warm and generous sympathy which you must hold for all your brothers in Psi Upsilon, and for all mankind, if you would ascend to the true meaning of Psi Upsilon.

Archon: Friends, are you prepared to continue your journey – a journey which lasts until your last faint faltering breath?

(Candidates respond.)

Archon: Brothers, are you prepared to accept these friends into our noble order?

All Brothers: Aye, Brother Archon.

(Song Leader should prompt brothers to sing the first verse and one chorus of 'Welcome Brothers.' Archon should pause for a moment of reflection. At that point the bound Constitution should be opened to the appropriate page and the pen laid next to it. Archon should have a list of the full names of all candidates available to be read.)

First Angelos: Brethren of the Psi Upsilon Fraternity: I introduce to you (names of candidates), who, desirous of partaking with us of that fraternal intercourse which is the

bond of our friendly union, ask to be initiated into our mysteries, and to become members of our Brotherhood.

Archon *(After a pause):* Candidates, your desire is reciprocated, and, on behalf of my Brethren, I inform you that you have been unanimously elected members of the Psi Upsilon Fraternity, and you now unite your names, your fortunes, and, we trust, most of all, your hearts to a band whom the ties of kindred feeling, similar tastes, and mutual regard have bound together. We expect all who join our Fraternity to expel from their breast all distrust and jealousy and bring their warmest feelings to the common altar. As it is the bitterest curse of life that we so often seek in vain for those to whom we may confide our heart's best treasures, and from whom we may receive the solaces of friendship, to secure these objects, inestimable in themselves, and especially so when considered with reference to the position in life which we at present occupy, we have pledged to each other our sacred honor. We shall regard you with honest confidence and brotherly esteem, and shall expect from you the same warm offering. In connecting yourselves with this Fraternity, do you solemnly promise that you will obey its Constitution and its laws? That you will preserve its Constitution, its laws, and its transactions inviolably secret? That you will faithfully perform every duty assigned you; and that you will contribute all in your power consistent with honor and morality for the promotion of the interests of the Fraternity and of your fellow members? That you will console and support them in sickness and affliction, and that you will ever hold them as sincere friends?

Do you (Candidate's Full name), on your sacred honor, promise these things?

(Only the last sentence is repeated for each candidate. The initiated having so promised, the Archon shall continue.)

Archon: Thus you do covenant with us. You have now entered into obligations from which you can never withdraw. The vows, which you have made at this Psi Upsilon altar, will ever be binding. Upon you now rest the responsibility of sustaining by word and deed the principles and objects of the association with which you have connected yourselves. And in the same spirit of brotherly affection that you have manifested towards us in your pledge,

we now receive you as a fellow member of the Psi Upsilon Fraternity. Will the Big Brothers please pin the badges on the new brothers?

(Big Brother should remove pledge pin and pin his brother's badge on his little brother)

Archon: On our badge are inscribed the objects of our association in the clasped hands, that ancient and sacred symbol of friendship, and in our motto (Translation), you read them. To a full participation with us of that friendship and fellowship, which are the hallowed ties that bind us together, we heartily welcome you, and in token of our common feeling, we tender you the right hand of a brother.

(Song leader should prompt brothers to softly sing 'Welcome Brothers'.[Three Verses and Choruses] Beginning with Archon and other officers, all brothers should get on line to shake hands [The Grip] with the new Brothers. At the end of 'Welcome Brothers,' the Archon raps his gavel and proceeds.

Archon: Will all brothers please return to their places. *(Wait.)* I welcome you new brothers into the bonds of Psi Upsilon. The final act of initiation is the addition of your signatures to the Constitution of Psi Upsilon. Every Brother since our seven founding brothers has signed our Constitution. It is now your privilege to do so. Will Brother First Angelos assist the new Brothers in signing the Constitution?

(Call new brothers by name – starting with oldest class first. Angelos will supervise signing process.)

Archon: Brothers, the time for closing has now arrived. Let friendship and brotherly love be the hallowed ties that bind us together. In our fellowship let us keep the vows we have freely made, and preserve unbroken all ties of brotherhood. Let no contention arise in our midst and let us ponder well our words and actions. Our outward union we now dissolve, but let us cling to that inner and truer union. In going forth from the hall, let us remember the vows once taken at the Psi Upsilon altar, and let our motto ever be (In Greek).

The Covenant

Equipment/Supplies/Attendants

- Archon
- 1st Angelos
- Song Leader
- One copy of the "Covenant" for each brother

The Ceremony

Archon (or 1st Angelos): Brothers, we now come once again to unite our names, our fortunes, and, we trust, most of all, our hearts, to a band whom the ties of kindred feeling, similar tastes, and mutual regard have bound together. We expect all members of our Fraternity to expel from their breast all distrust and jealousy and bring their warmest feelings to the common altar. As it is the bitterest curse of life that we so often seek in vain for those to whom we may confide our heart's best treasures, and from whom we may receive the solaces of friendship, to secure these objects, inestimable in themselves, and especially so when considered with reference to the position in life we at present occupy, we have pledged to each other our sacred honor, and today we do so again. We will regard each other with honest confidence and brotherly esteem, and shall expect from each the same warm offering.

BROTHERS, IN UNISON (repeating after Archon/Angelos):

In my connection with this fraternity, / I solemnly promise that I will obey its Constitution and its laws; / that I will preserve its Constitution, its laws, and its transactions inviolably secret; / that I will faithfully perform every duty assigned to me; / and that I will contribute all in my power consistent with honor and morality / for the promotion of the interests of the Fraternity of my chapter and of its fellow members. / and that I will ever hold them as my sincere friends. / On my sacred honor, I do promise these things.

Thus making covenant with the Brotherhood of Psi Upsilon, / I again acknowledge these obligations from which I can never withdraw. / The vows which I have made at this Psi Upsilon altar will ever be binding. / Upon me now rests the responsibility of sustaining and promoting by word and deed / the virtues and objects of the association with which I have connected myself.

In order to exemplify these virtues and objects in my daily life, as a member of Psi Upsilon I will:

- Protect the health, safety, property, and dignity of all human beings
- Provide assistance to those in need and sacrifice for them when necessary
- Strive for academic achievement and integrity
- Confront, comfort and support my Brothers when they are in need
- Meet all financial obligations to my Chapter and my Fraternity
- Uphold these standards and those of the Covenant as the minimum expectation of a true Brother

(*After these words are spoken, each brother will sign and date his copy of "The Covenant." The song leader will then prompt the chapter to sing "Welcome Brothers." The Ritual Chairman should collect the documents at the conclusion of the ceremony from all brothers except seniors.*)

Adamantine Chain Ceremony and Senior Charge

A public ceremony; acceptable to invite faculty, friends, family, pledges, etc.; Senior charge can be adapted by alumnus to fit the chapter and members better.

INVOCATION (delivered by a respected member of the Senior delegation): In a few short days, college life will be only a memory, and we will enter a competitive world. May what our fraternity stands for, and what we have learned in our Fraternity, help us to make a worthy place in the world. May we have not only the desire but the will to set an example in conduct and belief that will influence others and keep us loyal and steadfast.

May we continue to grow mentally, physically and spiritually so that we may be able to accept the challenge to live a noble life. May we find time in the busy and absorbing years ahead to continue to serve our fraternity which has given us the basis for a rewarding life. We are thankful for the many privileges and blessings that have been ours. May we be responsible for the way we use them.

In the spirit of service, may we be just and kind-hearted in our dealings with all people and seek to contribute to our community in the finest tradition of Psi Upsilon. May we celebrate many future reunions, bound as friends and brothers by Psi Upsilon's Adamantine Chain of Brotherhood.

(*Song leader should prompt chapter to sing the "Doxology"*)

Archon: Tonight we honor those who will soon graduate from the ranks of this chapter. We are gathered to celebrate their accomplishments in these halls and in the halls of academia. We congratulate them on their impending graduation.

As this institution has honored them, likewise this is a chance for the Fraternity to mark its progress by honoring the scholars it has also educated. These men have demonstrated their commitment to Psi Upsilon throughout their college careers, and we are proud of their

accomplishments.

We honor the following: (*Archon reads the names of all graduating seniors.*)

The chapter will miss these brothers, but more brothers have entered to continue their good work. Our Fraternity's bond is strong and never-ending - an Adamantine Chain.

(Archon holds chain aloft for all to see.)

We pass this chain to remind us of our lifetime commitment to Psi Upsilon and to remember the contributions made to this chapter made by the seniors here assembled.

(*Archon directs brothers and pledges to stand and form a circle. All brothers stand in a circle with the key alumnus to the right of the Archon and seniors to his right. Archon passes the chain to the brother or pledge to his left. The seniors will be the last to receive the chain. All brothers and pledges take and pass the chain. Upon passing the chain, the brother/pledge extends his hand to the brother/pledge on either side and continues in that position through the ceremony, thus forming a chain of brothers. The graduating seniors will take and pass the chain last. Graduating seniors should offer remarks. The chain will finally rest with the alumnus designated to deliver the "Senior Charge."*)

SENIOR CHARGE (delivered by designated key alumnus): My brothers, you came to Psi Upsilon with accumulated knowledge of your youth. Your parents, brothers, sisters, and others in your life gave you solid principles, support, and love. Your bond with these people is strong and never-ending. When you pledged yourselves to Psi Upsilon, you were welcomed heartily. You were initiated, and you added to your principles an oath to uphold the truths of the Fraternity. Upon graduation, you will take your principles into the community to forge new friendships and bonds. But remember, the pursuit of knowledge is unending. You must not end your search for truth when you leave these academic halls.

As graduating seniors, you are reminded of the lifetime responsibility of Brotherhood. You are welcomed into the ranks of the alumni with many opportunities to continue your service to the Fraternity. May you remember the things you have experienced emotionally, physically and spiritually. There are many rewards that come with the opportunity of a

college life and education, among them the privilege of participation in this great fraternity of ours.

A college education does not entitle you to a prosperous or blissful place in the world. You must earn this through hard work, cooperation, and understanding. We trust that Psi Upsilon has helped to build your moral character, your intellectual integrity, and your willingness to contribute of yourself toward the common good, so that you will be prepared for the challenges which lie ahead. We trust you and your brothers have together learned the true meaning of brotherhood.

Now we congratulate you and wish you the best. May the memories of your years in this chapter and what you have learned make your future satisfying and rewarding. May these memories bring you back often to renew the friendships and the spiritual experiences which come through Psi Upsilon and may your memories of this place and these brothers be as fond as our memories of you.

(*Song leader prompts brothers to link fingers and sing "Shrine Song."*)

Installation of Officers

(Outgoing officers are arranged at the front of the room in their customary positions.)

Old Archon: My brothers, we shall now proceed with the installation of officers. The newly elected officers will please rise and come forward.

(The officers-elect come forward and form a line facing the Archon. They align themselves in order of succession with the rising Archon on the far right of the line, followed by the 1st Angelos, 2nd Angelos, Grammateus/Epistolographos, Thesauristes, and Oikonomos in that order. As each new officer is installed, the old officer will assist with the donning of the officer regalia.)

Old Archon: By vote of the Brotherhood, you have been chosen as the leaders of this chapter. Do you each now promise in the presence of the brotherhood her assembled to discharge faithfully and impartially the duties pertaining to your respective offices and to preserve our fraternity intact from any detriment that might arise from conscious acts on your part?

Incoming Officers (in unison): I do.

(Archon then proceeds with the installation of each officer.)

Installation of Archon:

Old Archon: Brothers and friends of Psi Upsilon, it is my privilege to install as Archon of the Gamma Tau Chapter Brother _____. Please come forward.

(New Archon takes one step forward.)

Brother _____, the high station to which you have been raised involves great responsibilities. In your hands will be placed the growth, interests, and well-being of this Chapter (colony).

Brother Archon, I now present to you this robe of office and this gavel, and trust you will always provide leadership, set an example for others to follow, practice integrity, exhibit courage, accept and offer advice and answers, and always represent Psi Upsilon and the Greek movement with the dignity and respect they command.

(Old Archon assists new Archon with donning of robe, etc. and provides new Archon with Gold Book. He then steps back and new Archon proceeds with installation of new officers.)

Installation of First Angelos:

New Archon: It is my privilege to install Brother _____ as First Angelos.

(First Angelos steps forward)

Brother _____, to you is entrusted the development of character, loyalty, and brotherhood in the members of the Chapter. Your program of member education must educate and inspire all associated with the Fraternity to a full understanding and appreciation of the ideals, principles, practices, and objectives of Psi Upsilon.

Make it your goal to develop and maintain a program of full participation, active involvement, and mature acceptance of responsibility on the part of every brother.

Brother _____, your position is also of great importance for you must at all times be prepared to take up the duties of the Archon should circumstances require such action. I now present to you this robe of office as a symbol of your responsibilities.

(Steps back)

Installation of Second Angelos:

New Archon: It is my privilege to install Brother _____ as Second Angelos.

(Second Angelos steps forward)

You are the chapter's ambassador. It is your responsibility to ensure that the chapter enjoys a positive relationship with the community. You will do this by cultivating a genuine respect

for the chapter through a program of campus involvement, service activities, social affairs, and general communications with parents, alumni, the university, the Interfraternity Council, other fraternities, sororities, campus groups, and faculty.

(Steps back)

Installation of Grammateus/Epistolographos:

New Archon: It is my privilege to install Brother _____ as Grammateus/Epistolographos of the Gamma Tau Chapter.

(Grammateus steps forward)

Brother ____, the duties of your office are among the most laborious and precise in the chapter, for you are charged with the responsibility of keeping all of the records of the chapter. You are the link which binds this chapter to the other chapters, colonies, and alumni of this great Fraternity throughout the United States and Canada. Therefore, be especially prompt and faithful in keeping your work always performed, and stand ready to execute faithfully all of the duties which your office requires.

Your office will require you to preserve and strengthen the bonds between generations which are so essential to the life of the Chapter. You will be responsible for all programs involving our alumni, and will be required to keep in frequent contact with those who have gone before.

(Steps back)

Installation of Thesauristes:

New Archon: I have the privilege of installing Brother _____ as Thesauristes.

(Thesauristes steps forward)

Your office is one of great trust, for you hold the responsibility for the financial welfare of the Chapter. Therefore, you must at all times exemplify the highest standards of integrity in

maintaining the material property, funds, and the financial records entrusted to your care. It is your obligation to administer, faithfully and impartially, the financial affairs of the Chapter, to emphasize the importance of the prompt fulfillment of each member's obligations, to adhere to Psi Upsilon's Financial Responsibility Policy, to operate within the duly established budget of the Chapter, and to preserve its assets in the interest of long-term stability.

(Steps back)

Installation of Oikonomos:

New Archon: It is my privilege of installing Brother _____ as Oikonomos.

(Oikonomos steps forward)

You, Brother ____, have a great duty to the fraternity by being entrusted with the physical state of the Chapter House. You will be the primary brother responsible for the wellbeing of the facilities and possessions of the Chapter House. It is you duty to ensure the Chapter House is well-supplied and its possessions are properly maintained and repaired in a timely manner. Your office is one of labor and commitment to helping your Brothers continue to find a safe place to reside within our Chapter House.

(Steps back)

New Archon: Do you each now promise in the presence of the brotherhood here assembled that you will, to the best of your ability, uphold the laws and standards of our Fraternity, and with untiring zeal seek to advance the cause of Psi Upsilon, aspiring always to realize its aims and ideals?

Officers (in unison): I do.

New Archon: You are the newly chosen leaders of the _____ Chapter of Psi Upsilon. In your hands rests the destiny of the chapter. By your actions will the future of the chapter be determined. Your legacy will be felt long after you have left these halls. Your brothers have

expressed their respect for your ability and their confidence in your integrity. We look to you for guidance, direction, and leadership.

Through your leadership you must strive to assure that harmony and cooperation shall always prevail among us. Your spirit of service, your devotion to duty, your willingness to serve and sacrifice will be the qualities that give force and direction to our aims and aspirations.

(The New Archon pauses then addresses the membership.)

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the Fraternity, I now declare these brothers hereby confirmed in the offices for which they have been chosen. I command the membership individually and as a whole to lend them fullest support in their every effort for the advancement of Psi Upsilon.

(The New Archon pauses, then addresses the new officers.)

New Archon: The new officers will take their stations.

(The new officers align themselves in hierarchical order. The new Archon provides appropriate motivational remarks. Following the remarks the new Archon raps three times and prompts all members to rise and sing "After the Battle.")

Memorial Service

Supplies/Attendants

- Designated key alumnus
- Song leader
- Text of ceremony for family of deceased

This service is to be used either: a) inside the chapter house as a memorial to the brother; or b) outside the chapter house in the church or chapel, or at the grave site, at the request of the family. If at the chapter house, a special meeting is called and family and close friends of the deceased brother should be invited to attend. All brothers should be wearing appropriate attire.

An appropriate copy of the text of this service will be available for presentation to the family of the deceased.

The Ceremony

(*Song leader will prompt brothers to commence with singing of "The Doxology"*)

Alumni Chapter President (or designated key alumnus): While some mourn the loss of a child and others the passing of a devoted friend, we gather here today to honor the memory of one of our departed brothers in Psi Upsilon. With a true heart, our brother was a shield of defense to those less able to bear their burdens. Like all the spirited brothers of the clasped hands, they answered the challenge of the Fraternity with virtue and diligence by filling their appointed place in their family, in their community and in our Fraternity. This brother, to whom we bid farewell, bound their heart with the heart of their brothers in the ties of fraternal love. The unity of brotherly love draws us to console those among us who knew them well.

(*At this time, it is appropriate for members to share their personal memories, feelings, thoughts on the passing of the Brother*)

We know that the sorrow we suffer now, in losing of our brother, shall but strengthen our devotion to their memory.

(*Song leader will prompt brothers to conclude the ceremony by singing "Shrine Song")*